

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2010-57-E - ORDER NO. 2010-181

MARCH 16, 2010

IN RE:	Application of South Carolina Electric & Gas	)	DECLARATORY ORDER
	Company Requesting to Reconfigure a	)	ON STATUS OF
	Portion of Its Existing V.C. Summer-	)	RECONFIGURED
	Pineland 230 kV Transmission Line and to	)	TRANSMISSION LINES
	Reconfigure a Portion of Its Existing V.C.	)	
	Summer-Denny Terrace 230 kV	)	
	Transmission Line	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the February 5, 2010 letter of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (“SCE&G” or “the Company”) requesting that this Commission declare the status of reconfigurations of portions of the existing V.C. Summer-Pineland 230 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line and the existing V.C. Summer-Denny Terrace 230 kV transmission line under the Utility Facility Siting and Environmental Protection Act (“the Act”). SCE&G asserts that the reconfigured lines constitute “the replacement of an existing facility with a like facility” under S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-33-110(1) (1976), and that the reconfigurations therefore do not constitute “construction of a major utility facility” under the Act, for which certification would be required.

SCE&G states that it is necessary for the Company to reconfigure portions of the named transmission lines in order to accommodate the construction of a brand new 230 kV transmission line stretching from the Company’s Denny Terrace Substation to its Pineland Substation. This line will be denominated as the Denny Terrace-Pineland 230

kV Transmission Line, and the Company is presently preparing an application for certification of this line under the Act. SCE&G notes that possible Commission approval of the declaratory relief sought with regard to the reconfiguration of the two existing transmission lines will have no effect on whether or not the Commission grants certification of the new proposed line.

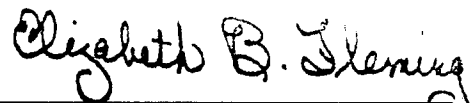
S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-33-110 (1) (1976) states in part: “The replacement of an existing facility with a like facility, as determined by the Commission, shall not constitute construction of a major utility facility.” Construction of “major utility facilities” require certification by this Commission. We have examined the descriptions of the reconfigurations of the two lines furnished by the Company, and have concluded that the reconfigurations at issue indeed each constitute “the replacement of an existing facility with a like facility,” and therefore do not require certification. With regard to the VCS-Pineland line, the Company intends to reconfigure 1.3 miles out of the approximately 24.3 miles length of the line. The existing line consists primarily of H-frame structures, and SCE&G plans on replacing these with single pole structures for the reconfigured portion of the line. This will remain in the existing right of way. With regard to the VCS-Denny Terrace line, the Company intends to reconfigure 3.6 miles of the approximately 26.3 mile line. Again, existing H-frame structures will be replaced with single poles for the reconfigured portion of the line, and the line will remain in the existing right of way.

Clearly, the two reconfigurations constitute, in our opinion, “the replacement of an existing facility with a like facility” under the Act, and no new certification is

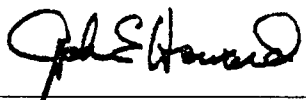
therefore required. As SCE&G states, an application for a certificate is clearly required for the brand-new line known as the Denny Terrace-Pineland 230 kV Transmission Line.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Elizabeth B. Fleming, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
John E. Howard, Vice Chairman  
(SEAL)